

RABID LEGISLATION HURTFUL TO TRADE

President of National Laundry Association Sounds Warning.

TWO THOUSAND AT CONVENTION

Work of Session Begins Right After Cordial Welcome by Mayor—Expert Tells How Laundry People Suffer Because of Fault of Others. Program To-Day.

Sounding a warning against the menace of ill-advised legislation to modern industry, while referring particularly to the tendency of legislatures to enact laws damaging to the better interests of the laundry business, E. S. Purdy, of Jersey City, N. J., yesterday presented his annual report as president to the twenty-seventh annual convention of the Laundrymen's National Association of America.

Describing it as a danger which has arisen in the last several years, President Purdy deplored the tendency of legislatures to impose restrictions about the operation of the laundry by passing laws limiting the ages of laundry employees, prescribing the number of working hours, the restriction of machinery, regulations of hygiene and general working conditions in laundries and other places of female employment. This feature of the president's report, however, was not based upon his opposition to sane legislation which has its object the general betterment of conditions. He referred more directly to measures brought about by radical minds, his warning was against legislation without object or purpose, which cannot but work harm.

Some Legislation Wholesome.

He said: "It is not safe to say that while some legislation is entirely wholesome and proper, there is, nevertheless, considerable danger that such legislative enactments will at times go beyond their original intentions. Ill-advised legislation will result to the detriment and financial injury of every industry concerned."

Continuing, he pointed out the great need for a campaign of education to help the general public to a proper understanding of the modern steam laundry business. In this connection he said: "We are all aware of the remarkable lack of knowledge on the part of the people, and also on the part of the press, whether intentionally or not, concerning the real status of the steam laundry of the present time and the great improvements which have been made in the laundry business. He pointed out that such lack of understanding results in a disinclination to patronize the laundry business, in the lack of discrimination between sanitary and unsanitary conditions, and in the public blaming the laundress for things over which he has no control. If the proper knowledge could be conveyed to the public, the laundress would be more generally patronized, filthy and unsanitary washeries could no longer compete, and, to use the expression of a brother from Connecticut, 'the qualities of the manufacturer would no longer be visited upon the laundressman.'"

Biggest Ever Held.

Outnumbering in attendance any similar gathering ever held here, the convention was opened yesterday morning in the auditorium of the Jefferson Hotel at a great historic festival. Every available inch of space on the main floor and in the galleries was taken by the delegates and visitors. Occupying seats of honor near the front were several hundred women. In opening the convention the president gave a brief history of the association from its organization in Chicago more than a quarter of a century ago to the present time. He pointed out that while the greater number of the charter members had passed away, some few remained and were present at the convention. His remarks were followed by the opening prayer by Dr. E. N. Calsch, and then Mayor Richardson was introduced.

In characteristic manner the Mayor welcomed the visitors to the city, speaking in a particularly happy vein. He told them of Richmond, pointing out its many advantages, dwelling at length on its great historic festival. At the close of his remarks there was an outburst of applause, which lasted three minutes.

Mayor as an Aviator.

Responding on behalf of the association, Maurice G. Long, of Norfolk, said that of all cities in which the association had met Richmond possessed an unusual charm. He referred to the city as typifying the progress of the New South. Mr. Long also referred humorously to Mayor Richardson's experience as an aviator, creating considerable laughter. Following the announcement of the amusement program by Mordecai B. Florsheim, chairman of the local committee, a recess of fifteen minutes was taken to allow the visitors to retire from the room.

On special motion the reading of the minutes was dispensed with, and the president proceeded to name special and regular committees, after which he presented his report. Reviewing the past year, he said:

"General laundry conditions, based upon the observation, have been above the average, but were at times characterized by unusual fluctuations. Steady prices on the whole have been maintained, and some slight advances in certain localities, especially on collars and household linen, but unfortunately it should also be noted that breaks have occurred in others."

Committees Appointed.

Committee on Resolutions—James A. Beattie, of New York (chairman); Henry P. Runkel, Illinois; J. F. White, Indiana; J. B. Moran, Connecticut; J. J. Veld, Alabama.

Committee on Finance—Henry W. Storer, Ohio (chairman); C. A. Wheeler, Texas; R. D. Blakely, New Jersey.

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TROPICAL STORM WREAKING HAVOC

Tremendous Damage Done in Cuba by Hurricane.

HEAVY LOSS OF LIFE IS FEARED

Disturbance Moving Northward, and Southern Florida Is Now in Its Grasp, Where Wind Is Blowing Eighty Miles an Hour—Communication Cut Off.

Havana, October 17.—The island of Cuba has probably sustained the greatest material disaster in all her history in the practically continuous cyclone which began with light rains on Thursday morning, developing into torrential floods and devastating hurricanes, and continuing until this evening. The western half of the island suffered more severely than the east.

The first cyclone, of which there was some warning, had hardly abated on Sunday night when suddenly the cyclonic blasts swept over Matanzas, Pinar Del Rio and Havana provinces, completing the destruction wrought by the first storm.

At 9 o'clock to-night the rain was still falling in frequent heavy gusts, but the wind had abated considerably, and the sea was falling.

It is impossible to estimate even roughly the amount of the damage, which doubtless will aggregate many millions of dollars. In addition to the great destruction to sugar and tobacco plantations, many thousands of peasants, who have been rendered homeless and destitute by the loss of their homes and the food crops. It now seems probable that the republic may be compelled to request international aid for the relief of these sufferers, whose condition is most deplorable.

In the city of Havana the losses probably will exceed \$1,000,000. Few fatalities up to the present have been reported. Three men were drowned in the harbor, but no deaths from the storm occurred in the city. It is probable, however, that the casualty loss in the interior will be large.

Great Damage Done.

Havana, October 17.—For hours during the night and through this morning Cuba was in the grip of a storm which blew with great violence from the southwest and attained its greatest force shortly before noon. When the storm shifted to the west, and the sea began to rise, the waves sweeping in upon the city. Within an hour the pounding of the waters had broken a breach through the Malecon seawall. The waves quickly increased to monstrous height, engulfing the Malecon drive and flooding the narrow streets and the houses of the city. The waters, still rising, invaded all the seaward part of the city until 3 o'clock in the afternoon, when the section bounded by the Malecon, the Prado and the Boulevards Caizada de Galiano and Animas were several feet under water. The residents of the lower floors were driven to seek refuge on higher levels, while hundreds were crowded into the upper stories of buildings that threatened to collapse at any moment.

Vedado, a residential suburb, was exposed to the full fury of the storm. The sea advanced some hundred yards inland, demolishing many structures and probably causing loss of life. The upper part of the Prado was then filled with throngs of panic-stricken negroes, carrying such household effects as they could rescue from their own homes.

Mad With Fear.

The jail, at the foot of the Prado, was completely surrounded by water, and the prisoners, mad with fear, clung to the barred windows clamorously demanding to be removed to a place of safety. Armed guards held them in check until the waters began to recede.

At the height of the storm the great waves reached clean over the ramparts of Morro Castle. They rolled with terrific speed up the harbor, tumbling over the seawalls, inundating the streets in the lower part of the city, carrying away many of the small craft along the shore and swamping many lighters which escaped the blow during the earlier hours. All the steamers in the harbor remained at anchor.

At half-past three o'clock the rain ceased, but the wind remained strong from the northwest. The barometer stood at 29.13, having risen eight-tenths of an inch in two hours, giving rise to the hope that the worst was over. Practically all communications with the interior were leveled, but no doubt the damage was enormous, especially in Havana and Pinar Del Rio provinces. The Alameda River and other small streams in the vicinity of this city are over their banks, flooding the lowlands and carrying off huts, barns and cattle. Probably many people lost their lives in these sections.

The barges containing all the outfit of the divers working on the wreck of the old battleship Maine was carried away and stranded on the rocks of Morro Castle. Later the soldiers of the fortress succeeded in saving considerable of the apparatus.

President Gomez visited the inundated sections and directed the work of rescue.

Sweeping Key West.

Tampa, Fla., October 17.—A wireless message received here at 5 o'clock states that the hurricane is sweeping across Key West at a rate of eighty miles an hour. The barometer there reads 28.80. The storm seems to be moving slowly, directly towards Tampa, and Local Forecaster Wurtz announced that a hurricane of at least eighty miles an hour will be experienced here or in this immediate vicinity to-night.

With the barometer falling rapidly and wind now thirty miles an hour and increasing rapidly, Tampa and this entire section are in danger.

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BALLOONS ARE OFF IN DISTANCE RACE

Competing for James Gordon Bennett Cup and \$4,750 in Prizes.

TEN ENTRANTS SAIL INTO AIR

Race Is Begun Under Ideal Atmospheric Conditions, and Balloons Ascend Amid Plaudits of Thousands of People at St. Louis—Prepared for Long Flights.

St. Louis, Mo., October 17.—The fifth international balloon race for the James Gordon Bennett cup and \$4,750 in prizes, started to-day when ten large balloons, representing four countries of Europe and America, ascended amid the plaudits of thousands of spectators. The balloons sailed toward the north and northwest, and were cut off sight within a few minutes after the words "let go" were given by the pilots. Under ideal atmospheric conditions, amply provisioned for fifty hours or more in the air, and ballasted with the utmost care, the balloons rose gracefully and sped away. There was not a hitch in the arrangements, though the Harburg III, of Germany, Lieutenant Voigt pilot, got a false start, and the Million Population Club, of St. Louis, St. Louis von Phil, pilot, narrowly missed colliding with a grandstand.

The Entrants.

The balloons were released at intervals, varying from one minute to twenty minutes. The first to start was the Condor, of France, pilot, Ernest G. Schmuck, (aid: 425; Million Club (United States)—St. Louis von Phil, of St. Louis, pilot; Joseph O'Reilly, St. Louis, aid: 426; Azura (Switzerland)—Captain Emil Messner, pilot; Leon Glavand, aid: 527.

Harburg III (Germany)—Lieutenant Leopold Voigt, pilot; William F. Assman, St. Louis, aid: 514. Isle De France (France)—Alfred Leblanc, pilot; Walther de Mumm, aid: 524. St. Louis No. 4 (United States)—H. E. Honeywell, St. Louis, pilot; J. W. Tolland, St. Louis, aid: 525. Helvetia (Switzerland)—Colonel Theodor Schaeckel, pilot; Paul Armbruster, aid: 527.20.

Dusseldorf II (Germany)—Lieutenant Hans Gericke, pilot; Samuel F. Perkins, New York, aid: 536. America II (United States)—Allan R. Hawley, pilot; Augustus Post, aid: 547. Germania (Germany)—Captain Hugo Von Abercron, pilot; August Blackner, aid: 554.

President Cortland Field Bishop, of the Aero Club of America, was in direct charge of the contest. The race is for distance, which is to be air measured from St. Louis. The winner will receive the James Gordon Bennett Cup and \$2,000. The second and third prizes are \$1,500 and \$1,250. Under the rules, landing is made if the basket touches the ground, or the drag rope becomes entangled in trees, or trails along the ground for more than fifty feet. If the balloon descends in fresh water, it is disqualified.

Weather observer Hayes expects the balloons to take a northeasterly course after they have reached the higher altitudes. Honeywell carried a life up in the air for many hours.

Oxygen tanks were in each basket for use in high altitudes. The French entrants took champagne and whiskey in their supplies of drinks. The Germans placed beer and sausage in the baskets. Most of the balloonists took fruit with them. Apples, oranges and grapefruit were prominent in the food boxes.

F. Messner, a Swiss pilot, will depend on cold tea to quench his thirst. H. E. Honeywell will cook his meals by boiling time, and will cook his food in this manner. His stove consists of a bucket with a part on top.

Hans Gericke took a revolver with him. He said he expected to shoot game if he landed in a wooded part of the country. Honeywell carried a rifle to be used, he said, to scare persons who attempt to hold his drag rope and thus force him to make a landing.

The Million Population Club basket carried a cage full of homing pigeons. Captain Messner expects to sleep while in the air. The Azura is fitted with a wicker couch.

NOT ENOUGH RELIGION

Church Schools Should Improve System of Training.

Cincinnati, Oct. 17.—Discussions teeming with inferences that the general educational plans of the schools of the country did not contain enough religious training occupied most of the entire time of the fourth joint session of the House of Bishops and the House of Deputies of the Protestant Episcopal Church Convention to-day.

Several persons were outspoken in their belief that the schools controlled by the church should improve their pupils by giving them a complete religious training. In conjunction with the regular school work, and in addition to the religious training, it was suggested that all of the schools of the country should take up the plan.

A vote on the plan, to the Sunday school children for their contribution of \$425,000 to the missionary fund in the last three years was adopted. The argument was made by Dr. Endicott Peabody of Massachusetts.

The House of Bishops adopted an additional provision in connection with the election of suffragan bishops, to the effect that after three years from now suffragan bishops may be elected by different dioceses only with the consent of a majority vote of the committee and majority of the House of Bishops at a preceding convention.

In addition to the consent of the bishop of the diocese where suffragans are wanted.

The proposal that a bishop coadjutor of a diocese may be transferred from one diocese to another, with the consent of a two-thirds vote of the House of Bishops, was voted down.

Time Is Extended.

New York, October 17.—Announcement was made to-night by Sir Edward Holden that English bankers have agreed to extend the period of negotiating cotton bills of lading under the present system from October 31 to December 31.

NO MESSAGE COMES TO LAND FROM OVER-OCEAN BALLOON



WALTER WELLMAN.

WIRELESS FAILS TO BRING ANSWER

All Day Long Calls Are Sent Out, but They Are Futile.

VESSELS ARE SEARCHING

Wellman and His "America" Believed to Be Out of Touch With Stations.

STEAMERS GET NO WORD.

(By Marconi Wireless to the New York Times.)

Steamship Ryndam, at Sea, via Siam, October 17, 10:30 A. M.—Did not see or communicate with airplane.

(Signed) CAPTAIN HOUVELT.

Steamship Finland, at Sea, via Saginaw, L. I., October 17.—Finland did not see or have communication with Wellman airplane. (Signed) BALL, Marconi Operator.

Steamship Kronprinz Wilhelm, at Sea, via Siam, October 17.—On a sharp lookout for airplane. Called Wellman frequently. Nothing heard or received yet. (Signed) MARCONI OPERATOR.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

New York, October 17.—The appliances of modern science, which did so much to make the airship journey of Walter Wellman and Melvin Vaniman and their associates in the balloon America possible, failed all day to-day to bring the vessel into touch with wireless stations anywhere along the North Atlantic coast line.

The absence of definite information, while it caused great anxiety among the thousands of well-wishers of the expedition, was not unexpected by Mr. Wellman, who assured a reporter just before leaving Atlantic City, that he would be between the northern and southern steamship lanes on Monday and Tuesday, and would probably be too far from either to communicate with ships and too far from land to reach the coastwise stations.

When next he is heard from, according to his expectations, the messages will be relayed ashore from steamships along the northern lane, which he expects to reach between latitudes 45 and 50 and longitude 40.

About 800 Miles Out.

Careful estimates made by Weather Bureau officials in Washington and by associates of Mr. Wellman, who remained in Atlantic City, placed his probable position at midnight about 800 miles out from Atlantic City, blown eastward in about the latitude of Sable Island.

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RAILROAD STRIKE IS CALLED OFF

Work on All French Lines Will Be Resumed To-Day.

ATTEMPT TO WRECK TRAIN

Succession of Bomb Outrages Reaches Climax at Versailles.

Paris, October 17.—The railroad strike was formally called off to-night.

This was decided at a meeting of the strike committee of the National Railroaders' union. Work will be resumed on all lines to-morrow.

The succession of bomb outrages in connection with the railroad strike reached a climax to-day in an attempt to wreck a passenger train at Versailles. A bomb was thrown at the entrance of the tunnel to the Chantiers station at the moment a passenger train was due from Paris. The bomb struck the limb of a tree, and bounding off, landed beside the tracks with a terrific explosion. It tore a great hole, sending up showers of earth and fragments of the iron of which it was constructed.

A group of soldiers guarding the track nearby had a narrow escape from injury. They report having seen three persons on the bridge just before the explosion. Neither the tracks nor the tunnel were damaged. The train from Dreux arrived a few minutes later and continued on its journey.

All Versailles Shaken.

So great was the force of the explosion that all Versailles was shaken. Thousands of people rushed to the scene of the outrage and police guards were immediately strengthened all along the line.

This and other outrages have aroused the public and spurred the police and military authorities to new efforts to fight their secret foes. The police at once carried out a series of searches and fighting revolutionists.

Attempts at train-wrecking are reported from various parts of France, and serious catastrophes have been narrowly averted.

The express from Marseilles for Nice was derailed and the working parts of several trains were found to have been tampered with. Half a dozen bombs have been exploded in the city of Paris, and the police are endeavoring to prevent further outrages and to arrest the criminals.

Strike leaders arrested. The police have arrested several additional strike leaders on the charge of fomenting disorders. A large number of strikers have been sentenced to terms of imprisonment for interfering with the freedom of labor.

Six hundred women, the wives of strikers, attempted to parade to-night through the streets, carrying placards summoning the women of France to oppose "the scandalous oppression of the financiers" and help to alleviate the misery of small wage-earners. The police dispersed the women and arrested several of them.

205 BALLOTS WITH NO CHOICE BY CONVENTION

Second District Democrats Unable to Break Deadlock.

AN ALL-NIGHT SESSION HELD

Each Candidate Unwilling to Relinquish Chance of Nomination, Delegates Adjourn to Meet Again at 10 o'Clock This Morning—All Factions Standing Pat.

Suffolk, Va., October 17.—Following is the platform of the Second District Democratic Convention:

The Platform

Suffolk, Va., October 17.—Following is the platform of the Second District Democratic Convention:

Resolved 1. That we declare our allegiance to the national Democratic party, and stand on the platform promulgated by the last Democratic national convention.

2. That we favor an economical administration of municipal, State and national affairs.

3. We favor honesty in elections, and to that end recommend to the Legislature the passage of a bill legalizing all primaries in the State.

4. That we appeal to the Democrats of the Second Congressional District to rally to the support of the nominee of this convention, believing that all the interests of the district will be best subserved by a dualism will be best subserved by the election of a Democratic Congressman at this time.

BY ALEXANDER FORWARD.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

Suffolk, Va., October 18.—After taking 205 ballots without any result other than to demonstrate the fact that the candidates are individually unwilling to relinquish their chances of nomination, the Second District Democratic convention adjourned at 2 o'clock this morning, to meet again at 10 o'clock. The last vote was identical with the first—Deal, 7; Holland, 80; Maynard, 17; Young, 63.

All through the long hours of balloting the Holland delegates stood firm, not a man changing his vote. Two hundred and five times did J. C. Parker, of Southampton, floor leader for Senator E. E. Holland, reply "eighty for Holland" when the roll was called. J. E. West, of Suffolk, another Holland leader, announced during the early debates of the convention that he would stay and vote for the Nansemond Senator until the day of election. More as a joke, he said, than as a serious statement, he said he would vote for Deal or Maynard gave Holland one vote, but he needed four.

The votes of the other three candidates varied widely. The Young vote was a number of times cast solidly for either Deal or Maynard, and had the other candidate thrown his votes the same way a nomination would have been possible. But apparently such a contingency was carefully guarded against by the Young people, who could have changed before the vote was announced.

No end is in sight to the most memorable political gathering in the history of the district, and which was heralded by some of the speakers of the last convention which will ever be held in Virginia, for it unanimously called on the Legislature to legalize primaries at its next session. Three times the convention adjourned for short periods to allow conferences which might break the deadlock, but to no avail. Deal will not yield and holds his seven delegates together. Maynard, it is understood, will give up if Deal will go to a dark horse. But Deal feels that he was badly treated in Friday's primary by the Norfolk organization.

The opposition to Holland combined to effect the organization. The Holland leaders were a suspicion of the and fought it bitterly, but their fears were evidently unfounded, for they agreed to the suspension of the motion to adjourn. The Holland people wanted a recess again for one hour, evidently wishing to tire the delegates out. But they were rebuffed by the usual vote of 87 to 80. Charges were made before the committee on credentials that the Republican "Stuart" had voted for Holland. But they were not pushed and did not come before the convention.

Convention Organizes.

District Chairman C. Fenton Day called the convention to order at 12:35 o'clock, and Rev. R. C. McFarland offered prayer.

Colonel Day announced that the district committee had been unable to agree on a temporary chairman, having been tried 2 and 3. He called for nominations.

J. C. Parker, the floor leader for Holland, was on his feet at once and proposed the name of Dr. Gavin Rawles, of Isle of Wight county. T. J. Wool, the Maynard leader, was only a moment later with the nomination of George Placher, of Norfolk.

Mr. Wool followed this with a motion that the vote be cast according to the number to which each candidate was entitled. Mr. Parker, on the other hand, wanted the chairman of the delegations to announce the votes. R. R. Hicks, of the Young delegation, thought this would take too much time. J. E. West asked that the basis of membership in the convention as prepared by the district committee be read. This was endorsed by John Whitehead, the Deal leader.

Mr. Wool withdrew his motion, and the report of the district committee was read. It showed that the standing of the candidates was as previously announced in The Times-Dispatch—80 votes for Holland, 63 for Young, 17 for Maynard and 7 for Deal. The count

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